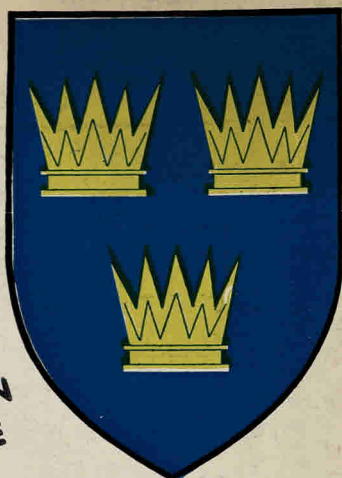


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The Irish Counties Journal

DECEMBER, 1974

ISSUE No. 1

VOLUME 5



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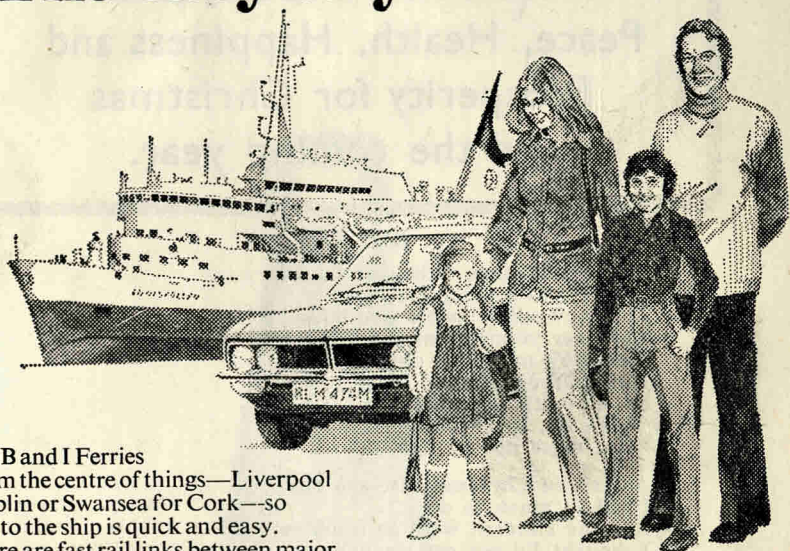
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and the coming year.

OLD KATE

At Christmastime I thought I'd ask
Old Kate to come and stay
She's now alone in her wee house
Since her youngest moved away
"But she's much too old"
The children said
No fun with her we'd find
"Come on, lets have her stay" I said
"You must not be unkind."

And so on Christmas Eve she came
I had so much to do
And the children were so troublesome
I thought I'd not get through
But somehow looking at Old Kate
With her happy ready smile
As she fussed about the children
Made my efforts seem worth while.

And soon the tea was over
And the children good as gold
As they gathered round Old Kate.
To hear the fairy tales she told.
And later by the fire we sat
With a midnight cup of tea
And we talked about the old days, old friends
And joys that used to be.

Four happy days we spent with Kate
A Christmas full of cheer
And we knew she was the one who brought
The lovely atmosphere.
Then all too soon it was goodbye
And each one shed a tear
As the children hugged Old Kate they said
"Please come back for next year".

By Mai O'Higgins,
"Cruachan", 26 Biggar Road, Dublin 12.

Lucozade aids recovery



THE WANDERING PIPER

By Mick Kydd

This month my wandering has brought me to Dublin City where I have been for the past two weeks visiting old friends and relations. Regrettably each year the number gets smaller.

The journey to Dublin was very pleasant, as I had for a travelling companion my good friend Marie O'Brien, Marie hails from County Mayo and is a grandniece of the late Very Rev. Thomas Cannon O'Malley, P.P., of Partry Claremorris, and sister of Michael O'Malley, who became All-Ireland Piping Champion at Listowel in August.

Marie also has the distinction of being Ireland's only lady D.J. for Ceile and Old Time Dancing, and is also a very talented traditional entertainer, under her professional name of Marie N. Cathain, combining folk songs and Irish dancing to her own accompaniment on the fiddle.

Last year she found time to represent Ireland at many folk festivals in the United States and Canada. The most famous of these being the Smythsonian Festival of Washington D.C. Whilst in New York she took part in folk festivals in Central Park and the Rockefeller Centre, and had the distinction of being the first Irish entertainer to get a big write-up in the New York Times. Her success was so great she is planning a return visit to the U.S.A. with the attraction of appearing with the famous "King of Blue Grass"—Bill Munro, of Nashville, Tennessee. Marie and her husband, Pat, are both physical education specialists, and are currently conducting classes round the south, at Fermoy, Mitchelstown, Mallow, Charleville, Cobh, Middleton, Kilfinane and Tipperary.

On Tuesday 15th October, I wandered down to Howth to take a look and listen to the Pipe Band. I had been advised I would probably meet some band members at the Peir House, I did indeed, so did not make it to the practice room that night, but learned a little of the origin of the band. There had been a Drum and Fife Band in Howth prior to the formation of the Pipe Band about 25 years ago.

The band is known as the 'St. Lawrence Pipe Band' and takes its name from the sponsor and the first President of the band 'Lord of Howth' whose family name is St. Lawrence and a member of the St. Lawrence family is still band president.

On Thursday of the following week, I paid a visit to the band room, like most bands, St. Lawrence has had its ups and downs and I was pleased to see six young enthusiasts, with practice chanters hard at it round a table, to be joined later by Pipe Major Kelly and Piping Instructor Tom Anderson.

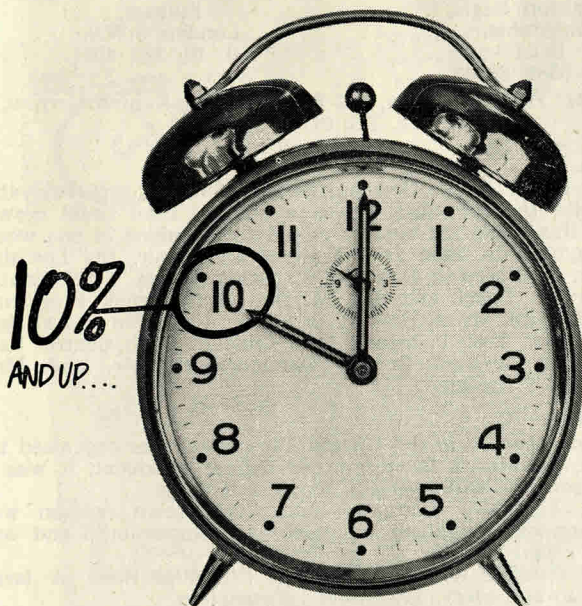
During a break from chanter practice Tom Anderson showed me a new set of pipes that he has for trial and comment. The drones and blow pipe were made of plastic nylon material. Ivory mounted they looked a little different from pipes made from conventional materials. I had read some time ago that owing to the shortage of African Black Wood it was proposed to try a synthetic material. So I was very keen to hear them played. Tom duly obliged and although in the confined space of the practice hall, they sounded really well.

I commented to Jim Ryan on the excellent rendering by Tom Anderson of 'Boys of Blue Hill' Hornpipe and learned that Tom had been All Ireland Champion a year or so ago.

The Band which can muster 12 pipers and 6 drummers wear a kilt of Sutherland Tartan and a black jacket, on enquiring why they did not wear a Saffron Kilt, I was told it was only to make it more colourful. There would be no variety if everybody wore the Saffron, which of course is true.

(continued on page 10)

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Tel: 0582 66943

Secretary:
Mrs. K. Coyle
18 Homestead Road,
Fulham,
London S.W.6.
Tel: 01 385 4061.

Press Officer: Peter Goodman, 102 Kenton Lane, Kenton Harrow,
Middlesex. Tel: 01 907 7404.

Dinner Dance.

The Dinner Dance in the Gresham Ballroom was a very enjoyable function despite the fact that it was a smaller than usual crowd. The cause of this being the number of parish re-unions in one week. We were delighted to have as our guest of honour, His Lordship Most Rev. Dr. McCormack D.D., D.C.L. Other guests were Senator Fitzgerald, Rev. J. Lynch and Rev. M. Daly both former Presidents now back in Ireland. Mr. J. Hearney, a former Chairman and all Ireland medal winner, Rev. P. Mee, O.M.I., Chaplain Irish Centre, Rev. P. Lawlor, Irish Welfare Bureau Hammersmith, Mr. and Mrs. McCormack, Mr. T. Gorman.

Parish ReUnions.

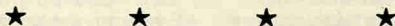
The Drogheda reunion in the London Tara Hotel was organised by Rev. J. Lynch, St. Mary's Drogheda, our former President. It was a great success socially, with over 400 people attending.

The Kilbeg, Moynalty, Carnaross and Carlarstown reunion was held at St. Augustines, Fulham Palace Road, Hammersmith and was again a great social success.

The Navan reunion was also held in St. Augustines. A large crowd turned up and everybody enjoyed themselves.

We are drawn away to Waterford in the Quiz.

Peter Goodman, Press Officer.



AER LINGUS NEWS

Aer Lingus introduce Gaeltacht Holidays scheme for Irish Children living in Britain.

Aer Lingus, in association with CaraIreland Tours Limited, has introduced a new scheme which offers children of Irish descent living in Britain the opportunity to spend a month's holiday in Ireland's Gaeltacht areas.

The new all-inclusive scheme offers return air travel to Dublin from any one of nine British airports; ground transportation from Dublin airport to and from the chosen Gaeltacht area; four weeks full board accommodation and a tuition course in the Irish Language.

The inclusive cost of the holiday from children under 12 is £45.00 per child flying from Liverpool or Manchester to Dublin or £48 flying from London to Dublin. Special group travel arrangements are also available.

The discussions are currently in progress with the Department of Gaeltacht in Dublin which will enable the existing Gaeltacht grants scheme to be extended to include Britain based children of Irish parents.

(continued on page 9)

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THE IRISH CLUB

by Pat Mulloy

The autumn social season opened in September with a Dinner and Dance in the Presidential Room. Cyril Farmers Band supplied the music and for the sum of £2.50 a very good meal in the lovely homely atmosphere of the club was indeed a perfect start to the season. Saturday dances have been resumed as well as the Chairman's monthly luncheon parties. Debates are held each Tuesday at 8.00 p.m. Watch the notice board for subjects for debate. Bridge is played on Wednesday evening and the last Saturday of the month, whilst there is Whist every Friday night.

Drama.

On going to press the Drama Group are preparing to give a performance of "The Righteous Are Bold" by Frank Carney. This is a gripping play about a girl who becomes possessed of an evil spirit and returns to Ireland, with some spine-chilling results. This play was produced in the Club some years ago by the old Drama Circle and, to steal a line from Sean O'Casey — it held the audience in petrified attention. The Drama Group have already set in motion plans for their next revue which will be early in 1975. Further details will be published as they are available, meanwhile — take an odd decko at the Notice Board. And of course the inevitable romance has crept into the Group, two of our most popular members, Larry Nestor and Kitty (nee Ryan) were married at New Ross on September 14th. The Council, members and management wish them every happiness.

General.

In spite of the bricks that are hurled from time to time the Club remains very important to the Irish Community here, especially now when we are beset by many difficulties. It is therefore up to every member to rally around and support the Club, through its Council, in its efforts to maintain the prestigious position which it has reached. Constructive criticism is always welcome, and in this vein I earnestly appeal for new members and beseech all Irish people and people of Irish descent to join us as members and help keep this wonderful club in the heart of London's Eaton Square.



AER LINGUS NEWS (continued from page 6)

The new scheme, the first of its kind in Britain, will be promoted primarily through the various Irish organisations in this country.

Malachi Faughnan, Aer Lingus Passenger Sales Manager, Britain, announcing the scheme said that the Irish in Britain had settled here and were integrated into the community. "This scheme will enable their children to develop a strong relationship with Ireland through its language and culture," he said "At the same time they will enjoy a good holiday."

THE FERMANAGH ASSOCIATION IN LONDON

Patron: Most Rev. Dr. Mulligan, Lord Bishop of Clogher.

Chairman: Mr. H. McCormack, Tel.: 387 8604

Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. McManus.

Secretary: Mrs. M. McCormack.

Treasurer: Mr. F. Corrigan.

The A.G.M. was well attended and all the officers and committee were unanimously re-elected. The Chairman in his review of the year thanked all for their support, and all Fermanagh people, their friends and other County Associations. Thanks were extended to the Irish Centre for use of rooms. To the Thomond Publishing Company for the Irish Counties Journal, The Fermanagh Herald, and The Cork Weekly Examiner for publicity. There have been many enjoyable and worthwhile functions during the year.

The first round of the Inter County Darts Competition versus Roscommon was a win in favour of Fermanagh. Everyone enjoyed the evening and the refreshments were super, at the Mother Shipton, Kentish Town. It is hoped to arrange the return match early December, also the quiz contest.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. and Mrs. Dan McManus on the sudden death of their brother in law, Tom Burke. The remains were taken to his native Gort, Co. Galway for interment. Following a Requiem Mass at The Church of St. Simon and Jude, Kensal Green. The deceased leaves a wife and three young children. There will be a benefit dance at the Gresham, Holloway Road, on January 24th, 1975. For tickets telephone 01 965 5155.

There will be a super Buffet organised by the Association on Saturday, 25th January, at the Irish Centre, all proceeds go to "The Friends of Hawkstone Hall Fund". Tickets £1.50 from the Secretary at 01 387 8604 or any of the committee members. For details see article "Hawkstone Hall".

By the time you read this Xmas will be around the corner and as always we think of our friends and those who are unable to be at home with their families at this special time. To all our readers and friends everywhere, we wish a very happy Xmas and a bright New Year.

Hope to meet you all again at the New Year Functions,

Mary McCormack Hon. Secretary.

★ ★ ★ ★

THE WANDERING PIPER (continued from page 4)

As I was about to leave Jim Ryan showed me a copy of the New Ross Standard giving news of the formation of a new Pipe Band to be known as 'New Ross and District Pipe Band'.

The F.C.A. already have a Pipe Band in New Ross, but it was stated there was no connection between the two, the new band being civilian and there was plenty of scope for both.

On the same page was a report of a court case, where a person was on charges of setting fire to the F.C.A. Training Hall, causing damage of over £10,000 including £1,000 to the Pipe Drums and Uniforms of F.C.A. Band.

As a parting note the 'New Ross Standard' was dated 18th November, 1974, I was reading it on 22nd October, were we well ahead with the news or just typically Irish?

Mick Kydd.

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London, E.4
Tel.: 01-529 8174

Treasurer:

Mr. J. Long,
18 Grafton Crescent,
London, N.W.1

Secretary:

Mrs. M. Moroney,
100 Sandymount Ave.,
Stanmore, Middlesex
Tel.: 01-954 3400



Most Rev. Dr. Harty, D.D., Bishop of Killaloe visited three convents on the Sunday following the Clare Dinner Dance. In this picture he is seen at Crispin Street Convent. In this group there are nine Nuns from Clare. Also in the group Fr. Culligan, Fr. Hillary, Fr. Sexton, Fr. O'Donoghue, Mr. T. Mannion, Martin Bradley and F. O'Brien, chairman of the Clare Association in Birmingham.

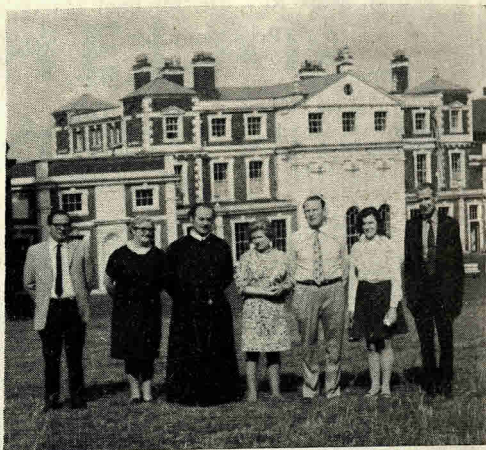
The Annual Dinner which took place on the 16th November was a great success and many have said that it was the best ever. We are all very pleased that our Association members and their friends enjoyed the function and this ensures that the 1975 function will also be a sell out. The Parish reunions which followed were well attended and the priests who came over to meet their people were well satisfied with the good attendance. Bishop Harty who attended the Dinner and the parish reunions was very impressed by the organisation of all functions and congratulated the committee on the work they are doing. He said that he was very pleased that the Clare Association was associating themselves with the Irish Centre and this was evident in the fact that we recently gave a gift of £1,000 to Hope House the new Centre Hostel. He noted too that we had promised to give £1,000 to the schools for backward children in Ennis. He expressed his thanks and surprise when we presented him with the cheque for the first part £500 which was handed over by our Chairman, Mr. John Canny. He said that when he made an offer of £1,000 to any charity they would be lucky to get it in ten years.

(continued on page 14)

"HAWKSTONE HALL"

During August some of our members spent a long weekend in Hawkstone Hall in Shropshire. As readers of the "Irish Post" will know, this is a Pastoral and study centre under the directorship of Father Jim McManus, C.S.S.R.

It is not only a place of study, but a wonderful centre for recreation and relaxation, as all visitors testify. Those who wish to leave the rush and bustle of the city, may find peace and tranquillity in the spacious and well wooded grounds. Fishing, boating and golfing are available to interested folk. Father Jim and his staff leave no stone unturned to ensure that the needs of their guests are fully catered for.



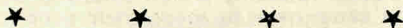
Father Jim McManus with some members of the Fermanagh Association, in the grounds of Hawkstone Hall.

The house itself, dating back to the 16th century, was purchased by the Redemptorists in 1926, and used as a seminary until 1973. It still contains portraits of former owners, and the ceilings in conference rooms and sacristy are real art treasures.

At Christmas special celebrations are planned for the festive season. This year we hope that many readers will come to Hawkstone Hall and share in the joy of Christ's birth. The staff extend a hearty welcome to all and especially to family parties. Write for details to: Father Jim McManus, Hawkstone Hall, Weston, Shrewsbury, SY4 5LG. Telephone (via operator) Hodnet 242.

I shall be pleased to pass on information if requested.

MARY C. GREENE Telephone: 01-286 6848.



CLARE ASSOCIATION (continued from page 13)

We are now faced with the raising of the second part of £500 to complete the £1,000 sometime in the near future. May I express my sincere thanks to all who have donated to this fund and to the people who have promised money in the near future. I speak for the whole committee who are without question sincerely grateful for your generous donations.

Looking ahead to the Christmas flight which takes place on December 21st leaving London's Heathrow and returning on Sunday evening, December 29th. Return fare £35. I feel sure that it will be fully booked by the time you read this but if you wish to travel give me a ring as there is always the odd cancellation.

(continued on page 31)

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Dr. C. N. PLUNKETT
Tel. 368 4433



Hon. Secretary:

Mr. B. F. MULLEN
8 Dorville Crescent,
Ravenscourt Park, W6 OHJ
Tel. 748 3480

Hon. Treasurer:

Mrs. M. T. CLARKE
32 Grove Hill Road,
Camberwell, S.E.5

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN



Christmas is with us once again. It is a time of goodwill, cheer and happiness. I would like to pay tribute to you all for the encouragement, help and friendship you have given me and my wife in the past year. 1974 has been a very good year for our Association, you supported every function with tremendous enthusiasm, and I hope you will continue to do so in the year ahead. Our Association must ensure that it maintains the high standard it has reached. It is encouraging to report that we had a record membership in 1974, and as some of you may have friends who might like to join us, an application form is printed at the foot of this page.

In conclusion I would like to send greetings and a word of appreciation to all our friends and supporters here in London and elsewhere, with a special note of thanks to the personnel of the Irish Centre.

May your Christmas be a holy and happy one, and please God 1975 will be peaceful and prosperous for all.

God Bless.

Matt Brunton.

Application Form

I wish to become a member · Renew membership of **The Cavan Association-London.**

Name Phone No.

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Return to Mr. B. F. Mullen, Secretary address as above.

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Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Dalton, "The White Hart", Acton, London W.3.

Hon. Secretary: Mr. J. Davis, 19 Durley Rd, Stamford Hill, London N.16 Tel: 01-485 9267.

Hon. Treasurer: Miss M. Kenny, 72 Hungerford Road, London, N.7.

Bacon & Cabbage Dinner.

The Bacon and Cabbage Dinner held in the Irish Centre on Saturday, 16th November, was a huge success. It was good to see so many Roscommon people present, some of whom were attending their first function. There was a coach load organised by Joe Finn all the way from Epsom. Another large group organised by Mrs. Kien-nen came from Rainham in Essex. Also present was Eamon Boland the great Roscommon midfielder of the 40's from St. Albans. All agreed that it was a wonderful occasion and are eagerly looking forward to our next function.

Card Drives.

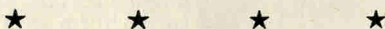
The '25' Card Drives which we started in October are proving very successful. Our last one before Christmas will be on 12th December in the Irish Centre, but we have booked two in January which you will be hearing about in due course. We are holding a Dance in The 'White Hart', Acton, W.3, on Saturday, 14th December at which we expect to meet all our friends from West London.

Next important date for your diaries is 11th January, 1975. That is the date of our next Bacon and Cabbage Supper in the Irish Centre. Enquiries for tickets are already coming in so don't be late.

As this will be the last letter before Christmas, I would like on behalf of our committee to thank you for your wonderful support during the year and to wish you all a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Prosperous and peaceful New Year.

J. Davis,

(Hon. Secretary)



OUR YULETIDE QUIZ

1. By what term would carol singers most likely have been known in the days of old?
2. Father Christmas's reindeers are said to have come from what land?
3. When is the feast of St. Nicholas?
4. Who is said to have introduced the Christmas Crib?
5. Can you complete the following:
Hail thou ever-blessed morn!
Hail, Redemptions-happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,?
6. Bethlehem means what?
7. When was the festival of Christmas introduced into the Christmas Calendar?
8. Who wrote the story "A White Christmas"?
9. Who wrote the story "A Christmas Carol"?
10. When is the feast of the circumcision?

Answers on page 31

*A Happy Christmas
To You All*

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and a Prosperous New Year
To All Associations*

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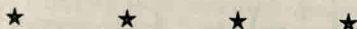
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Tuesdays:	Stanhope Institute 248, Marylebone Road, N.W.1. Tel: 723 0450.	6 to 7.30 p.m. S.D. 7.30 to 9.0 p.m. S.D.
Wednesdays:	St. Matthews C. of E. School (address as above)	7.30 to 9.30 p.m. S.K.
Thursdays:	St. Matthews C. of E. School (address as above)	6.15 to 8.15 p.m. S.D.

The fee is £2.15p per annum or 75p per term. Students are advised to discuss their knowledge of the language (if any) to ensure proper grading. There are classes for absolute beginners and all grades up to fluent speakers. Students may study 'O' and 'A' levels of the G.C.E. and Fainne Examinations. There are the usual holidays at Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide. Students may enrol at any class at anytime during the year. The year ends in the last week of June 1975.

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 Tel: 674 3659 or 672 2441 Ext. 36.

S.K. These classes are taught by
 Seamus Kenneally (Ring)
 1018 Green Lane,
 Dagenham, Essex.
 Tel: 595 1097.



THE DEATH OF MR. T. J. M. SHEEHY R.I.P.

The death has occurred in Dublin of Mr. T. J. M. (Tom) Sheehy, Co-ordinator of Audio-Visual Services in Bord Failte and a well known film critic and authority on documentary films.

Mr. Sheehy was born in London of Cahirciveen, Co. Kerry parents. Before joining Bord Failte in 1952 he was Editor of the Irish Hotelier and Public Relations Officer for the Irish Hotels Commission for American Tourism. In a long career in journalism he had been on the editorial staffs of both the Irish and English Digests and was Assistant Editor of the Irish Catholic.

Mr. Sheehy was responsible for the production of Bord Failte promotional films over the past 20 years. He also co-operated with visiting international film units and secured valuable world wide film, radio and television coverage for Ireland and for Irish Tourism. He leaves a widow, Marie, and two daughters, Clodagh and Aisling.

His brother, Mr. Terry Sheehy is General Manager for Bord Failte here in Britain. The Irish Counties Journal tender deepest sympathy to Mr. Sheehy in his recent bereavement.

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Secretary:

Mr. Declan Connell
31 Oval Mansions
London S. E. 11
Tel. 582 0693

Treasurer:

Mr. Paddy Armstrong
105 Meadway
Barnet
Tel. 499 4035

It is indeed a pleasure to report on our growing membership. A significant point is the number of well known gaelms from other societies who have applied for membership. There is a growing tendency in the Irish Community to "belong". This point was really borne out at the Federation of Irish Societies Congress held at the London Irish Centre on 9th November.

Peter O'Shea and yours truly represented our Association. This was a very constructive and informative meeting with delegates attending from all parts of the U.K. Forty-one Irish Societies were represented and it showed that at last the Irish people in Britain are getting organised and united on a national basis.

Our Committee has been working very hard of late, especially with the Annual Dinner and Dance looming up. I would like to take this opportunity to give you a brief pen picture of members of our committee.

Peter O'Shea and I have had a fair share of the publicity lately so the logical starting point is our Treasurer, Paddy Armstrong. Paddy a Dubliner is Assistant Manager of the Holloway Road branch of Allied Irish Banks. He was a natural choice as keeper of the privy purse. His knowledge and skill ensure our funds are in capable hands indeed.

Liam Ormsby — a former secretary hails from Mayo. Liam is a builder and runs a successful and thriving business. Despite this, he still finds time and energy to do trojan work for the Association.

Tom Maguire from Longford is in insurance. An expert on money matters he is a key member of our finance sub-committee. Tom has been ill lately and we all join in wishing him a speedy recovery.

Kevin Skerrit is a successful solicitor with a flourishing practice. A former treasurer, he comes from a well known golfing family, but still finds the time to devote his talent and expertise to the Association. His presence also assures that we have no expenses in legal fees.

Jim Sullivan is a Kerryman and also a successful businessman. He too gives us a lot of his time and energy. He is a man of very constructive and original ideas.

To complete the team we have Con Trainor, Jas Healan and Con Lyne. More about them in the next issue.

On going to press we are looking forward to our Annual Dinner and Dance at Alexandra Palace, an account of which will appear in later notes.

Declan Connell,
Hon. Secretary.

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Thomas E. Gorman Esq.		Thomas P. Murphy Esq.	
Chairman:	Treasurer:		Secretary:
J. Conway Esq.	M. P. O'Sullivan Esq.		J. Griffin Esq.
38 Church Road,	156 Hampton Road,		156 Blythe Road,
Barnes SW13	Ilford, Essex		London W14
01-748 1908	01-553 2113		01-602 1301

On behalf of the officers of the above committee, I extend Christmas greetings to all Associations, to the Embassy, The Irish Club, The Federation of Irish Societies, The Thomond Publishing Company, our English Friends and all readers of the Irish Counties Journal.

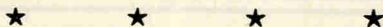
I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who helped to make the 1974 Parade and Dinner a success and also to both the Cordsuff Pipers and the Cardinal Wiseman High School Band for taking an active part in the Parade. The committee wish to extend their sincere appreciation to Cannon Row Police and Father Clements, Adm. St. Georges for their co-operation in helping to make possible the smooth running of the Parade.

A special word of thanks to the County Associations and Stewards for attending. I am sure you will support us in our efforts for 1975.

I now give you a brief outline of the plans the officers of the Parade Committee have drawn up.

The date is Sunday, 16th March, the parade will form up at Horse Guards Parade and proceed via Whitehall — Parliament Street — Westminster Bridge Roundabout — Westminster Bridge Road — to St. Georges Cathedral, Southwark, where concelebrated Mass will take place. Times of Parade and Mass will be announced later. This year about 2,000 to 3,000 marched and the committee hope that we can restore the thousands we had in former years to pay homage to our National Apostle.

Jim Griffin
Secretary.



BUNRATTY CASTLE TRIP (continued from November issue)

We adjourned to breakfast and then gathered round for a few of Father Sheridan's jokes and a sing song, Heathrow never saw anything like it before. Normally when flights are cancelled or delayed the least that is expected is glumness and frustration, but not these 73 passengers. We sang our way through endless cups of tea and coffee and Father Sheridan's glasses of milk. At last, we were being greeted at our plane, by our charming and hardworking crew, Captain Muggeridge, Flight Officer Finlayson and pretty hostesses, Margaret Norman and June Hawkins, who all attended the Banquet at Bunratty Castle and joined us at The West County Inn afterwards.

(continued on page 29)

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Her song is in my soul,
Let her pride be my pride
Her honour be my goal.

There like a diamond nestling
Within an emerald spray,
Her beauty often hidden
In a gown of pearly grey.

In wander by the Suir Side,
Soft sea smells waft the air;
All nature in her glory stretch
Out before me there.

My mind is for an instant
An Artist's magic brush
That captures in a moment
Each sight, each sound, each touch.

Swans upon the riverbank,
And boats that sail at dawn;
Birds that sing, aherald
A rainbow coloured morn.

Choirs from out St. Domnicks
Shades of Wallace in its tone,
Haunt the weary traveller,
And speed the lonely home.

So let me sing of Waterford
Her song is in my soul.
Let her pride be my pride
Her honour be my goal.

In a couple of years time St. Domnicks will be no more as it is to be demolished.

Eileen Goulding,
79 Cork Road,
Waterford.



WATERFORD TITBITS

Celebrated her arrival in London with a 21st Birthday, Miss Anna Grace of Mall, Waterford.

Congratulations are also due to Mr. and Mrs. George Green, of Tolworth, Surrey, who are celebrating their 25th Wedding Anniversary on Christmas Eve. Mrs. Green is the former Miss Colleen Gill of the Manor, Waterford.

Waterford Pocket Diaries now on sale at 30p each. Contact Mr. John O'Keeffe at 01 452 7940.

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BUNRATTY CASTLE TRIP (continued from page 25)

As usual on arriving at Shannon, Tom Mannion was there to welcome us and see to our every need. Our coach awaited and we were whisked away to the West County Inn for a brush up and refreshment before proceeding to Bunratty Castle.

We have told you all before about The Mediaeval Banquet and its removes. Suffice to say we ate and drank our fill.

The one to displease the Lord and Master at the Banquet was Father Sheridan, who was taken away to the Dungeon, mouth full of spare ribs (Irish style) screaming for mercy. The Americans attending the banquet thought it hilarious when we all chorused 'Hang Him, Hang Him'.

Father Sheridan was a rousing success when taken from the dungeon to entertain us. We could be there yet with the ovation he received.

After the Banquet we returned to The West County Inn, where a Banqueting Suite was put at our disposal for dancing and refreshments.

Chairman John Canny and his charming wife, Mary, were doing their job magnificently, doing a tour of all the tables and making sure everybody was having a good time. I met John's younger brother, Nicholas, and his very young wife, Mary, who entertained us with a couple of songs and Nicholas made sure our plane crew got back to their hotel and found some Irish chips for them on the way.

During the night we were entertained, of course, by Fr. Sheridan and Des McMahon. Mrs. Moroney was trying to get us all to bed before the cock crew, in order to get mass and be on time for the 10.30 a.m. Ferry across the Shannon, on our way to Listowel and Killarney.

As we were crossing the Shannon, Una tried to take some pictures of the sharks, but they were at the other side of the lake before she could get them in her lense.

You all know how beautiful County Clare is and the famous, very wide, River Shannon and the Lakes of Killarney, if you do not, you should at once put your name down for the next trip.

We had lunch in Killarney (some of us had delicious Dingle Bay Mussels) and then back to Shannon via Limerick.

On arriving at Shannon Airport there was of course, a bee line for the Duty Free shops and all filled up with the maximum allowance. One member of our party disguised as Lady Docker for the Weekend, was laden with gifts for her husband and family.

Our entertainers for the weekend did a wonderful job, even on the plane home, Mrs. Una Cooper (Dublin Association) organised the mike and produced a mouth organ for treasurer Jim Long to play.

We had a wonderful weekend and a big thank you must go to secretary, Mrs. Tesa Moroney for the hard work in the preparations for this trip, to her better half, Martin, to Chairman John Canny, treasurer Jim Long, and all the committee. To the crew of the Aircraft who did everything possible to make our journey comfortable even to smooth take offs and landings.

JANE SMYTH,
Editor.

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ANSWERS TO OUR YULETIDE QUIZ

1. Waits. The term applied to Carol singers and to instrumentalists who frequently accompanied them.
2. Lapland.
3. 6th December.
4. The Christmas Crib is thought to have originated with St. Francis of Assisi in 1223 A.D.
5. Christ is born in Bethlehem!
6. House of Bread.
7. In the 4th Century.
8. Irving Berlin.
9. Charles Dickens.
10. 1st January.

M. WATERS

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★ ★ ★ ★

CLARE ASSOCIATION (continued from page 14)

The children's Christmas Party will take place on Sunday, January 19th at the Irish Centre. You will have further notification of this in a circular some time after Christmas.

As the festive season is almost here and this will be the last issue before 1975, I take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas with every blessing and prosperity in 1975. At the same time I wish to thank the Editor of this Journal for her kindness in publishing everything, including photographs that we have forwarded to her during the year. May the Journal have every success in 1975 and may you Mrs. Smyth and Wally have a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

We offer our sincere sympathy to Mr. Hennessy on the death of his mother, R.I.P., also to the relatives and friends and indeed to all Irish people on the untimely death of our President, R.I.P.

N. T. Moroney (Mrs.)

★ ★ ★ ★

STOP PRESS.

Articles received from Laois and Kerry Associations too late to publish in this issue.

Laois Association — Support sought for Benefit Dance at The Cricklewood on Friday, 20th December, 1974.

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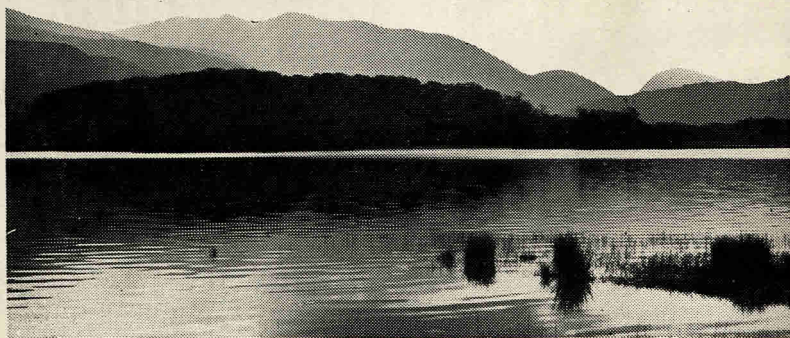
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Limerick Association

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